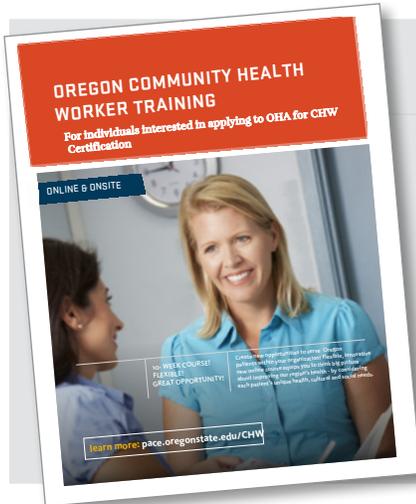


# Three Compelling Reasons You Should Hire and/or Train Community Health Workers



Training staff to serve as community health workers (CHWs) is a smart, strategic investment with real benefits for the populations we serve. Properly trained, staff working full time as CHW's and staff serving in other roles – including office staff, social workers, CMAs, CNAs, and others – can help us engage patients and their families to accelerate Tillamook's shared progress on key benchmarks such as well care visits, prenatal care, patient satisfaction, chronic disease management and more.

## 1 Modest Training Expense Yields Significant Return on Investment

Considering relatively low per-participant training cost to prepare employees for CHW certification, organizations may expect a significant ROI. Reviews of research by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Centers for Disease Control found evidence that CHWs can increase appropriate health care utilization in multiple categories. These findings suggest that CHWs support both health outcomes and progress toward incentivized benchmarks.

## 2 Targeted, Coordinated Intervention Pays Health and Cost Dividends

A recent New England-based demonstration project that had CHWs playing a prominent role in asthma medication management for children showed fewer hospital admissions and emergency room visits - with savings of \$1,104 per patient in one year. Results from this study are consistent with the CDC's own summary of research, which affirmed CHWs' effectiveness. Patients engaged by CHWs are more likely to keep appointments, comply with prescribed regimens and receive timely follow up or well care.

## 3 Organizations and Staff Benefit from Flexible Hybrid Training Option

Through a partnership with Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization, Oregon State University is pleased to offer an innovative training option that combines state-of-the-art online learning with convenient, county-based seminars.

### Community Health Worker Training

8-Weeks (85 hours) - Online/On-site

Cost: \$1,200

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